



*City of Charleston*  
*South Carolina*

JOSEPH P. RILEY, JR.  
MAYOR

BARBARA W. VAUGHN  
DIRECTOR  
PUBLIC INFORMATION

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## **PUBLIC WORKSHOPS FOR NEIGHBORHOODS ANNOUNCED**

CHARLESTON, SC – The City of Charleston is holding two public workshops in February involving Old Windermere, Byrnes Downs, and Cannonborough/Elliottborough in order to better understand and ultimately preserve the diversity and character of those neighborhoods.

The public workshops are the result of a City project to conduct Area Character Appraisals (ACAs) in those neighborhoods. Charleston's recently-completed Preservation Plan recommends conducting Area Character Appraisals on a neighborhood-by-neighborhood basis as a way to define an existing area by focusing on the unique character, architectural style, building forms, landscape resources and cultural resources that make up the streetscapes and blocks. The City is working on the project with additional assistance from a grant from the South Carolina Department of Archives and History. Consultants on the project are Robert and Company out of Atlanta and Glenn Keyes Architects of Charleston.

Work on the project includes researching current and historic maps and photographs, undertaking physical surveys of the neighborhoods, and reviewing existing zoning conditions. However, public contribution is considered a valuable tool to better understand the areas. Calling for citizen participation, Mayor Joseph P. Riley, Jr. said "The workshops are a wonderful opportunity for current and former residents of the neighborhoods, as well as members of the general public, to provide input on the particular elements that give those neighborhoods their character. These neighborhoods define Charleston and are special treasures in our city. "

Once completed, the Area Character Appraisals will provide a neighborhood-specific framework within which to evaluate new development. "By defining the particular elements that make a neighborhood unique, the Area Character Appraisals will serve both planning and educational functions well into the future of the city," said Eddie Bello, with the City's Urban Design and Preservation Division. These Area Character Appraisals are the first to be performed in Charleston, but the intention is to perform

more. "We hope to eventually define the character of in all of Charleston's many diverse neighborhoods. The ultimate goal is to preserve those individual qualities throughout our city for future generations."

The public workshop for the Old Windermere and Byrnes Downs Neighborhoods will be held on Tuesday, February 17 at St. Andrews Elementary School, at 7:00 p.m. The workshop for the Cannonborough/Elliottborough neighborhood will be held on Wednesday, February 18 at the Karpeles Manuscript Museum, 68 Spring Street, at 7:00 p.m.

**FOR MORE INFO:**

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